

CHAL 0758
Copy 1 of 4

7 October 1959

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

SUBJECT: Emergency Landings

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1. In answer to your penciled comment on attached message from [redacted] concerning emergency landings, the following comments are offered:

a. In my opinion, page 14, Section III of the U-2 Flight Handbook adequately details the actions that should be taken in event of an emergency off airfield landing. Briefly, it states "that due to low landing speeds a safe landing can be made on a reasonably smooth unprepared landing surface."

b. However, based on the nature of the emergency, gross weight, configuration, etc., it will always be up to the judgement of the pilot as to whether it is best to land "wheels up" or "wheels down."

2. During the history of this Project several crashes have occurred and to the best of my knowledge no serious fires have occurred even though some of these accidents occurred soon after take-off with full fuel loads. Therefore, it is believed that "fire hazards" are not a serious consideration when considering U-2 operations.

3. In view of the above, it is recommended that no changes be made to the U-2 dash one at this time.

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This document contains information
referring to Project CHALICE

JFR:bm
1 - addce
2 - Cps
1 - RI

[redacted]
STANLEY W. BEERLI
Colonel USAF
Chief, Operations Branch, DPD

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